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Applicant: Karl Storz, et al.

May 20, 1998

<sup>14</sup>  
~~17.~~ (Amended) Instrument according to [any of the Claims 1 to 14] Claim <sup>12</sup>15,  
**characterized** in that the proximally provided [fitting] connector for said irrigation  
passage extends at an angle of 90° relative to [the] a longitudinal instrument axis.

<sup>15</sup>  
~~18.~~ (Amended) Instrument according to Claim <sup>12</sup>15,  
**characterized** in that said irrigation passage is provided ahead of the handpiece,  
seen in a direction towards the proximal end, so that the outer blade will be  
rotatable relative to the handpiece.

Please add the following claim.

~~19.~~ Instrument according to Claim 15,  
**characterized** in that the proximally provided connectors for said suction and  
irrigation passages are configured coaxial with respect to each other.

REMARKS

The revised claims are substantially the same as those in the application  
as filed.

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The amendments eliminate multiple dependencies, correct antecedent basis, eliminate unnecessary limitations, and otherwise conform the claims to U.S. Practice.

Respectfully submitted,



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